

# The Government Finance Officers Association of SC Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 3

Winter 2005/2006

## 2005 Fall Conference ~ “On A Positive Note”

*Tim O'Dell ~ 2005 Fall Conference Chair*

The weather was absolutely gorgeous for our 2005 Fall Conference at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. The conference theme, “On A Positive Note” was developed by the Fall Conference Committee and became a self-fulfilling legacy for this event. I heard numerous compliments on various speaker presentations, and thoroughly enjoyed the sessions I attended. I had several new ideas to take back to the work place, along with a renewed spirit from spending time with fellow government finance professionals. I also received compliments from speakers and vendors regarding the overall quality of the conference. The Convention Center and the Sheraton Hotel once again provided an elegant environment with delicious food and impeccable service. We have contracted to return to this fine facility and will enjoy their southern hospitality, carrot cake and sweet tea again next year. Our sponsors and vendors once again “stepped up to the plate” to help insure a quality event for our organization. We are particularly grateful for their generosity and support.

Sunday's sessions kicked off with heavy attendance, followed by an entertaining evening with a buffet dinner and music by Mike Lockaby of East Coast Entertainment. Mike

has a keen sense of how to keep folks entertained; however, if its dance lessons you need, come see me. Monday's attendees were warmly welcomed by the Honorable Howard Barnard, III of the Horry County Council. Howard was followed by our keynote speaker, Ben Rast of Morgan Stanley who has a gift for translating complex financial options into terms even us “bean counters” can understand. The conference continued with a plethora of topics catering to all segments of governmental finance. Tuesday's banquet was a night to roll out this year's new Certified Government Finance Officers. The awards were presented by Tom Wagner, who received special recognition for his efforts and service to our organization and our great State. Also, special thanks are in order to John Marcucci for the flag building ceremony, a patriotic salute to the red, white and blue. The conference was also sprinkled with some leadership/motivational speakers. These folks give gifts that follow us long after we are back in the office. Heartfelt thanks to Alice, Cindy, Jeff and...yes, even Roddy.



Providing up-to-date information and news affecting the government finance officer profession in South Carolina.

### Inside this issue:

2005 President	2
Certification	3
SCEIS	4
Scholarships	4
Video Conference	5

### Mark Your Calendars

The **2006 Spring Conference** has been scheduled for **Thursday, May 4, 2006** at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center (formerly the Columbiana Hotel). More info will be available soon!

*Continued on Page 2*

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## From Our 2005 President ~ Renee Moore, CGFO, CPA

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What a rewarding experience it has been serving this organization these past years, first as a board member and finally president! We are over 700 members strong now!! GFOASC's goals include providing finance professionals who work for this great state a place to continue their professional education. This association has historically worked very hard to be the best place for state finance officers to come to in pursuit of professional excellence. GFOASC also maintains the goal of providing pertinent continuing professional education credits for a very reasonable price to all members. My challenge to future officers and board members is to maintain the high standards and integrity this organization has already achieved and to build on that success. And I urge each member to continue to pursue professional excellence by taking advantage of all that GFOASC has to offer.

I am proud of the accomplishments we have made. Our web site is undergoing some great enhancements. We plan to have the ability to take credit card payments and on-line registrations and membership renewals working

in January 2006. With our new database, we will have so many new opportunities: on-line elections, on-line polling, on-line chat rooms, membership searches for members, personal membership groups, etc. Our web site should be the first place members go for information.

The certification committee has successfully updated and enhanced the program. Our program is certainly one to be proud of and all CGFO's should rightly take pride in the designation. I'm sure we were all proud when the Governor proclaimed October Certified Government Finance Officer's month.

It has been my pleasure serving this organization and the experience I take away from this is invaluable to me. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity. Best wishes GFOASC.

Renee R. Moore  
President, 2005

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## 2005 Annual Fall Conference ~ Tim O'Dell, CPA

*Continued from Page 1*

I am extremely proud of the effort and the fine conference organized by this year's Fall Conference Committee and our association's anchor, Lynne Lee and her pack mule, Greg. It was indeed a pleasure working with such a fine group of talented professionals....and we had a wonderful time together! They are an optimistic group, and although the pessimist may be right in the long run, the optimist has a better time during the trip. Leo Tolstoy said, "Life is a place of service, joy can be real only if people look upon their life as a service and have a definite object outside themselves and their personal happiness." If you're not enjoying your work, you should either change your attitude or change your job. Since a job change is probably the least desirable alternative, in changing your attitude you should look for ways to serve others while doing your job.

Happy trails,  
Tim O'Dell  
Fall Conference Chair

### 2005 Fall Conference Committee

Jennifer Broughton ~ SC ESC  
Missy Coker ~ Williamsburg Technical College  
Frances Derrick, CGFO ~ Department of LLR  
Matt Evans, CGFO ~ Clarendon County  
Patricia Ann Epting ~ SC Adjutant General  
Billy Martin, CGFO ~ SC ESC  
Carol Martin ~ B&C Board, CIO  
Sherry Martin ~ SC Department of Commerce  
John Marcucci ~ SC DHEC  
Renee Moore, CPA, CGFO ~ DDSN  
Cassandra Phibbs ~ Department of Probation, P&P  
Romeka Washington ~ Sea Grant Consortium

**THANKS TO THE FALL CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE!  
I LOVE YOU GUYS!**

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## Certification Committee Update

The Certification Committee has begun to receive reports for 2005 and would like to offer the following reminders to all CGFOs:

- The CGFO program guidelines are on the website at: <http://www.gfoasc.com/recertif.htm> (see pages 11-15 in particular)
- Remember that we are no longer on a 3 year cycle. Each CGFO is required to get at least 20 hours of CPE each year.
- At least 4 hours must be reported in the “accounting/budgeting” category
- No more than 4 hours of personal development can be reported.
- Up to 10 hours can be carried forward to the next year
- Please include your email address on the report form so that we can have your most current email—this is the quickest and easiest way to contact you. If you didn’t include it this year, please email it to Lynne Lee at [lslee@sc.rr.com](mailto:lslee@sc.rr.com)
- You must be a current member of GFOASC to remain certified, even if you have an approved waiver of CPE.
- Be sure and send backup with your CPE report, so that we don’t have to request it if you are selected for audit

- If you use the CPA form to report your hours, be sure and note which hours are in the “accounting/budgeting” category.

- The deadline for reporting 2005 is February 28, 2006. Please let us know if you have a problem getting your report in on time.

The Certification Guidelines have been updated and are on the website. The only change to current requirements/procedures is that beginning in 2006 (reported in 2007), all carry forward hours (up to 10) will be classified as “Other”, which means that all CGFO’s must earn a minimum of 4 hours in the “accounting/budgeting” category each year.

The link to the new guidelines is <http://www.gfoasc.com/Certification%20Program%20Information%20and%20Guidelines0106.pdf>. You can also reach them by visiting the site at [www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com) and clicking on the certification link. Please do let us know if you experience any problems with the site.



## Congratulations to our 2005 Scholarship Recipients

Sherry Martin ~ Scholarship Committee Chair

Each year the GFOASC Scholarship Committee proudly awards three scholarships to praiseworthy individuals. This year was certainly no exception. The Katherine Zook Scholarship is awarded to a GFOASC member who is seeking to further their professional development by participating in the Government Finance Officers Certification Program. The individual must be an employee of State, City or County Government, Public Colleges and Universities, or School Districts. This year’s winner of the Katherine Zook Scholarship is Jason Epting of Columbia, South Carolina. Jason is currently employed by the SC Budget and Control Board, Internal Operations and works in Finance. The scholarship will cover the costs of registration fees and books for the certification courses.

The Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship is awarded to a rising college sophomore, junior, or senior based on academic achievement and faculty recommendation. The full time student must be majoring in Finance, Accounting, or Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting or Finance. The individual must be a South Carolina resident, attend a public college or university, and maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA. The Scholarship Committee is proud to announce that Brenda J. Floyd of Rock Hill, South Carolina is the well-

deserved recipient of the Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship. Brenda is currently attending Winthrop University majoring in Accounting. The value of the scholarship is \$2,000.00.

The Founding Fathers Two Year College Student Scholarship is awarded to a student who attends a South Carolina technical college or a USC two year branch college working towards a certificate or Associate Degree in Accounting, Finance, or a business related field. The scholarship requires the student be a South Carolina resident, have completed at least 12 credit hours, and have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. It is the pleasure of the Scholarship Committee to announce that Sandra K. Tucker of Lexington, South Carolina is the proud recipient of the Founding Fathers Two Year College Student Scholarship. Sandra is currently attending Midlands Technical College majoring in Accounting. The value of the scholarship is \$500.00.

A special thank you goes out to the Scholarship Committee Members Billy Martin, Melanie Merritt, Cheryl Allen-Lint and Stacy Hamm.

Lastly, congratulations again to the three deserving scholarship recipients Jason Epting, Brenda Floyd, and Sandra Tucker!!!

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## ***2006 GFOASC Board of Directors***

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## Government Finance Officers Association of SC

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### GFOASC Web Site

Don't forget to visit the  
GFOASC Web site regularly!  
Updated information and forms  
are located there first!

We are unveiling our new communi-  
cation tools in January. Watch  
for them in the Memberclicks sec-  
tion. You will be able to post  
questions on the bulletin board,  
join e-lists, update your information  
and make payments soon.

Bookmark it and visit often at  
[www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com)!

## Budgeting Outcomes Video Conference

**Budgeting for Outcomes-Getting the Results You Need In  
An Age of Permanent Fiscal Crisis  
GFOA National Video Conference**

**January 26, 2006 ~ West Columbia, SC Location  
Midlands Technical College—Airport Campus**

Visit our web site to click through and register with GFOA National for  
this video conference or go directly to [gfoa.org](http://gfoa.org) and  
click on the training link.

*Four hours of CPE are available!*

## Thank You!!

***Please join us in a heartfelt thanks to our Board  
Members rotating off the board this year.  
They are as follows:***

*Jennifer Broughton ~ Secretary 2005 (served 1 Year)*

*Ann Epting ~ Immediate Past President 2005  
(Served a total of 6 years)*

*Matt Evans ~ Director 2005 (Served 2 Years)*

*Martin Taylor ~ Treasurer 2005 (Served 2 Years)*



## SCEIS PROJECT - MOVING FORWARD

Recent South Carolina Enterprise Information System (SCEIS) activities continue to move the project forward.

- Servers and other hardware components for the SCEIS infrastructure have arrived at the State Data Center. Evaluations of vendor proposals to install, integrate, and provide initial operational support are underway. Click on the following link to read more about the SCEIS infrastructure platform: <http://newsletter.cio.sc.gov/preview/2005101859617187.5.html>

- Responses are due soon to the RFP for prime integration services for implementation phase of Finance and Materials Management functions and all phases of the Human Resources/Payroll and Budget Forecasting.
- Hiring of additional SCEIS staff is in process. Blueprint update work by project team continues.

For latest news, please visit the SCEIS website at [www.sceis.sc.gov](http://www.sceis.sc.gov).



## Performance Measurement CPE

The USC Institute for Public Service and Policy Research will be conducting a one day seminar on Performance Measurement on January 26, 2006. They have five to seven spaces available and are offering our members an opportunity to attend. More information is available on our web site at [www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com) under the CPE link.

